

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 33.

1.-32. (canceled)

33. (currently amended) A method of modulating a light source, the method comprising:

providing a hollow tube having a first end with a first endcap and a second end with a second endcap, an inlet valve and a first electrode associated with the first end and an outlet valve and a second electrode associated with the second end;

opening the inlet and outlet valves to provide for a simultaneous modification of gases between said first electrode and said second electrode;

flowing a portion of a first gas from between said first and second electrodes out of the light source through the outlet valve ~~without a pump~~, and simultaneously flowing a second gas through the inlet valve into between said first and second electrodes ~~without a pump~~, said first gas being different from said second gas;

providing power to the first and second electrodes during the flowing of the first and second gases to modulate the light source; and

closing the inlet and outlet valves.

34. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the first gas is selected from the group consisting of: inert gases, krypton, argon, neon, xenon, helium, mercury, neon/helium mixture, neon/argon mixture, oxygen, hydrogen, deuterium, and nitrogen.

35. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the second gas is selected from the group consisting of: inert gases, krypton, argon, neon, xenon, helium, mercury, neon/helium mixture, neon/argon mixture, oxygen, hydrogen, deuterium, and nitrogen.

36. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the first gas is selected from the group consisting of: inert gases, krypton, argon, neon, xenon, helium, mercury, neon/helium mixture, neon/argon mixture, oxygen, hydrogen, deuterium, and nitrogen; and the second gas is selected from the group consisting of: inert gases, krypton, argon, neon,

LAW OFFICES OF
MACPHERSON, KWOK CHEN
& HEID LLP

1102 MICHELSON DRIVE
SUITE 210
IRVINE, CA 92612
(949) 752-7040
FAX (949) 752-7049

xenon, helium, mercury, neon/helium mixture, neon/argon mixture, oxygen, hydrogen, deuterium, and nitrogen.

37. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the inlet and outlet valves include seals to prevent gas from leaking past or through the valves from the tube.

38. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a straight hollow tube shape.

39. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a serpentine shaped hollow tube.

40. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the light source comprises a lamp array of serially connected light sources.

41. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a rectangular planar shaped hollow tube.

42. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a spiral shaped hollow tube.

43. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a ring shaped hollow tube.

44. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the hollow tube comprises a channel shaped hollow tube.

45.-54. (canceled)

LAW OFFICES OF
MACPHERSON, KWOK CHEN
& BIRD LLP

2400 MICHELESON DRIVE
SUITE 210
IRVINE, CA 92612
(949) 752-7040
FAX (949) 752-7049